

2010 Public Health Nurse and Immunization Conference

Gregory N. Larkin, MD, State Health Commissioner



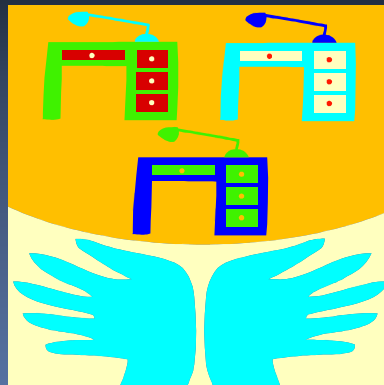
**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES
PROVIDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR
PUBLIC HEALTH IN INDIANA**

Indiana's Public Health Nurses



Are the foundation of the Public Health System in Indiana:

- Knowledge
- Expertise
- Community associations and partnerships
- Commitment to Public Health
- TIME!



Local Public Health Needs are Spools of Isolated Threads

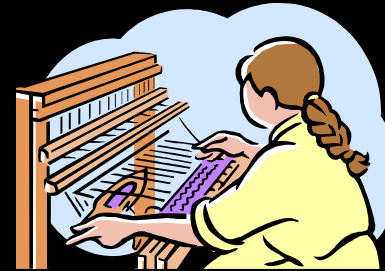


In Search and Need of a Professional and Caring Weaver!

The Local Public Health Professionals:

- Weave

-  Needs
-  Resources
-  Leadership
-  Networking
-  Expertise
-  Time



To Create the Community Fabric of Health

- The quality of the Community Fabric of Health determines:
 - Safety
 - Quality of Health
 - Quality of Life
 - Costs of Health Care
 - Economic Success
 - Competitiveness



What would happen if..



Would our news headlines read...

FEWER PEOPLE ARE BEING TESTED FOR HIV/AIDS...no one to ensure the health of our population...

INCIDENCE OF TB IS ON THE RISE...is this the new norm?



NO IMMUNIZATIONS FOR BABY!
Outbreaks of pertussis reported all over Indiana...

HEALTH EDUCATION IS A THING OF THE PAST!
We are facing alarming new increases in smoking rates...

WHO WILL HELP OUR UNINSURED?

As the unemployment rate increases, fewer people have insurance, but there is no place to go...

OUTBREAK OF MRSA IN OUR SCHOOLS...no one to investigate

Public Health Nurses Play a Vital Role



Prevention



Public Health Nurses

The Driving Force

- ☐ Leadership Role
- ☐ Assessment of Need
- ☐ Creation of New Strategies
- ☐ Building Relationships
- ☐ Implementation of Plans
- ☐ Evaluation of Efforts
- ☐ Policy Changes

21st Century Public Health



What Is On the Horizon?



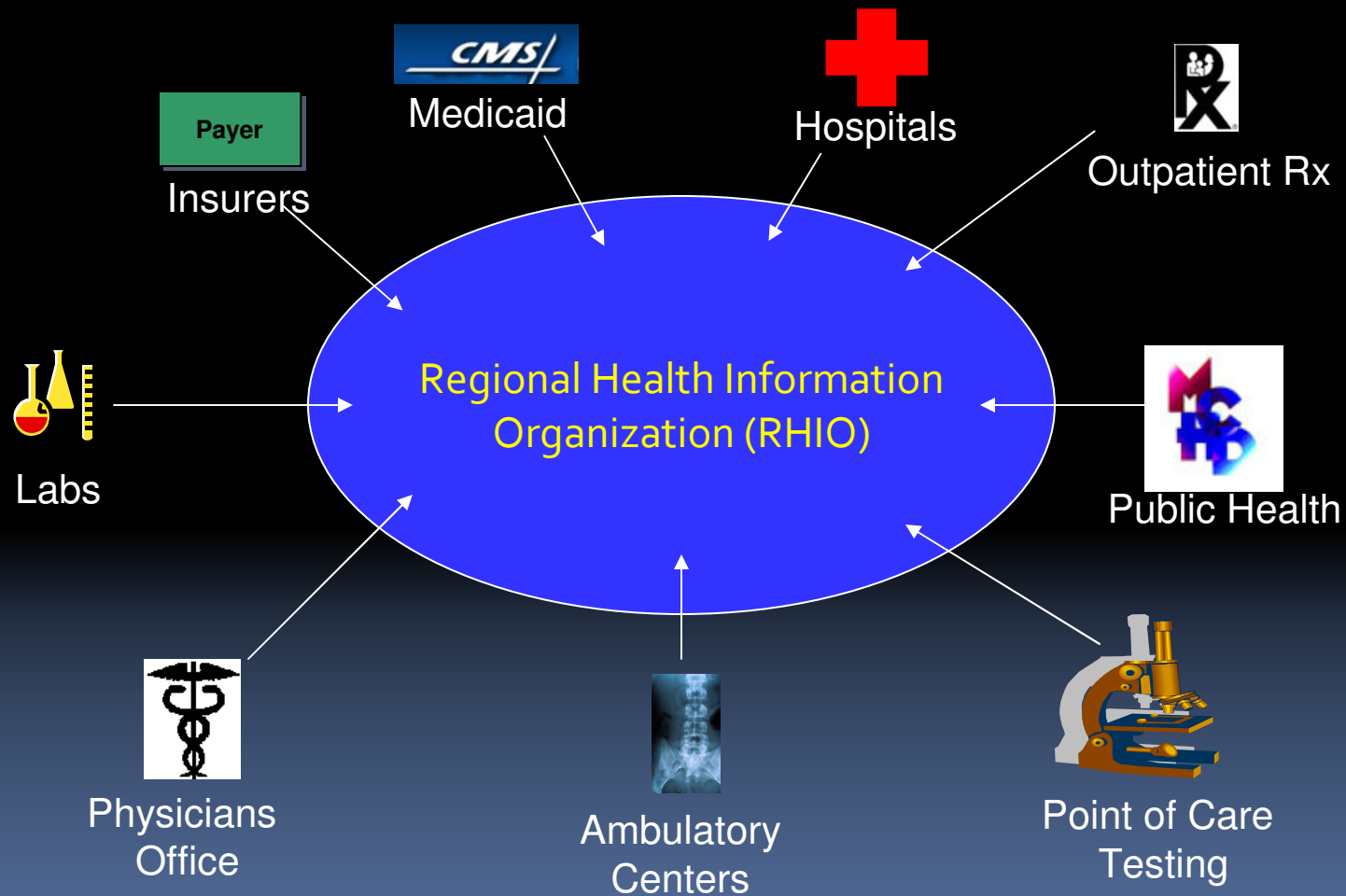
Health Information Technology
Accreditation
Quality Improvement

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- What is HIT? (HIT)
 - Transforms health data into actionable health information.
 - Provides “real time” connectivity among thousands of “data warehouses” and merges key elements for improved quality and consistency of care
 - Examples:
 - EMRs that connect to a community
 - E Prescribing
 - Local Health Departments connect to each other and ISDH?

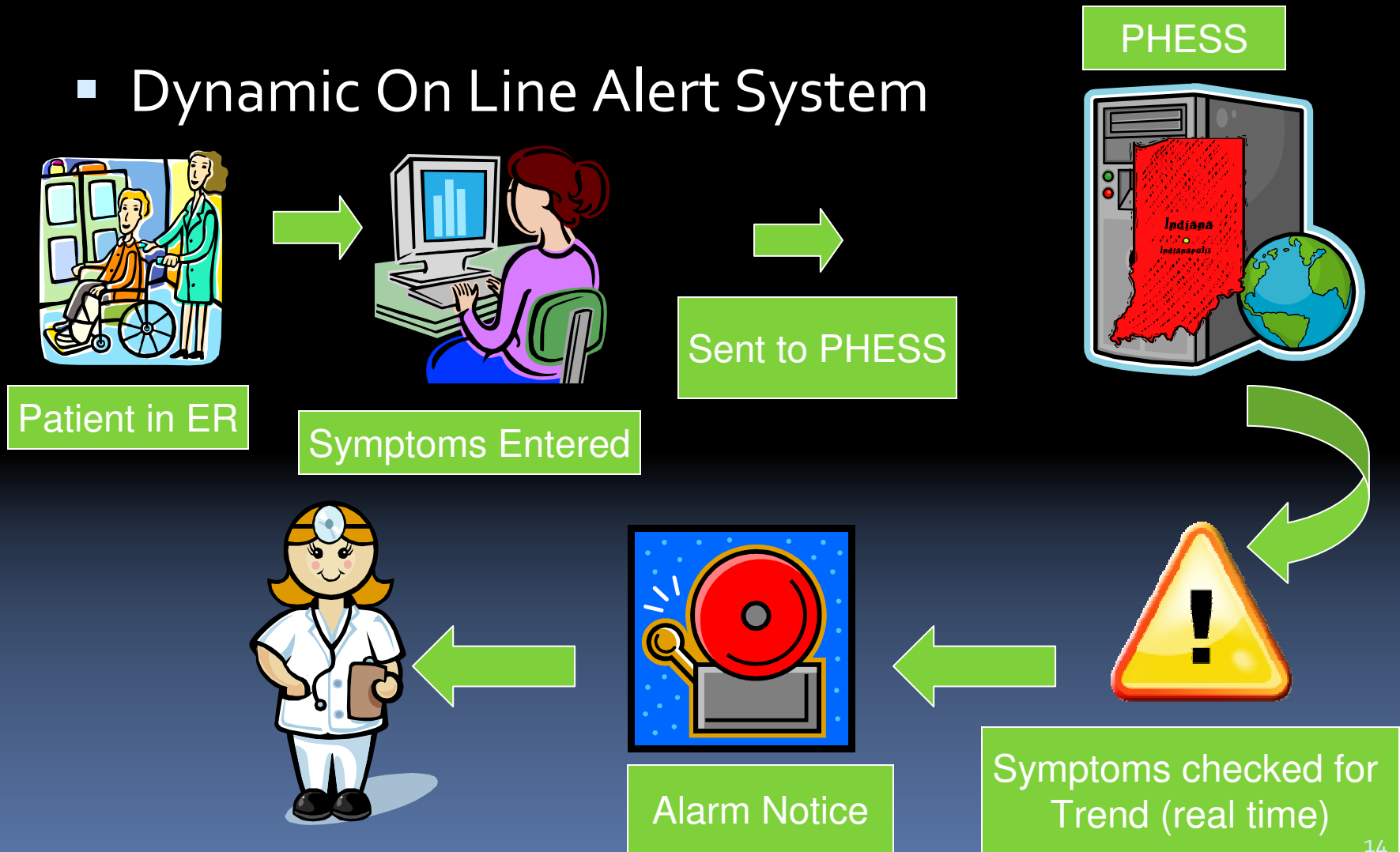


Indiana Health Information Exchange Processes: Data Sources



Public Health Emergency Safety System

- Dynamic On Line Alert System

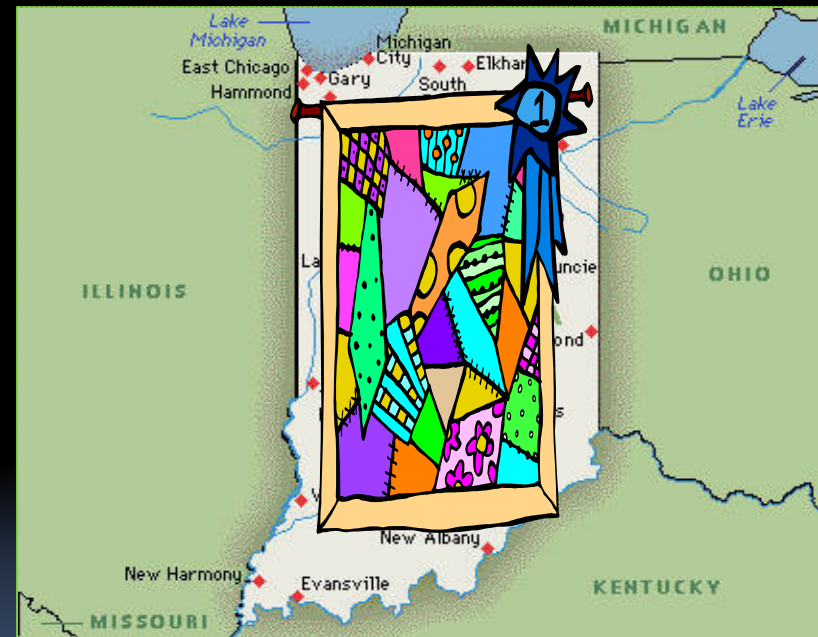


County needs may vary, but not the quality of the work

Different local patterns of need

BUT:

- Not the core services available
- Not the best protocols of care
- Not the need for acclaim and recognition for excellent work and dedication



Partnerships for Accreditation

ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

ACCREDITATION

- Accreditation is a system of common standards used to measure performance.
- It is based on standards that health departments can put into practice to ensure they are providing the best services possible to keep their communities safe and healthy.
- Accreditation will drive public health departments to continuously improve their services and performance.

Kaye Bender, President and CEO, PHAB
<http://www.phaboard.org/index.php/accreditation/>

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- Quality Improvement in Public Health is the use of a deliberate and defined improvement process.
- It is focused on activities that are responsive to community needs and improving population health.
- It refers to a continuous and ongoing effort to achieve measurable improvements in the efficiency, effectiveness, performance, accountability, outcomes, and other indicators of quality in services or processes which achieve equity and improve health of the community.

Journal of Public Health Management and Practice,
January/February 2010

The Latest from PHAB...

VISION FOR ACCREDITATION

- Public health to take the opportunity to:
 - Measure performance
 - Get recognition for accomplishments
 - Demonstrate accountability

GOAL OF ACCREDITATION

- To improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of *all* health departments

“Everyone has the right to quality public health programs and services, and that means setting standards that encourage improvement of services.”

- Kaye Bender, President and CEO of PHAB

PHAB Timeline

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

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
Internal Operations

Standards and Measures

Assessment Process

18 Month Beta Test

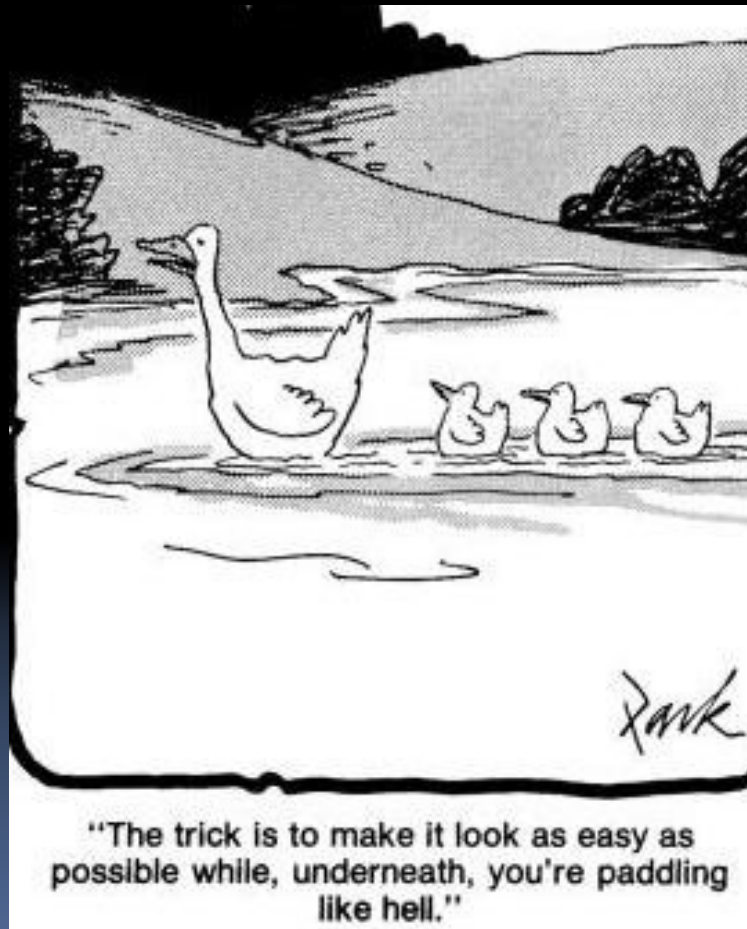
Applications



PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES IN INDIANA ARE LEADING THE WAY!



The Behind the Scenes Work of the Public Health Nurse is Appreciated!





PHNs – H1N1 Case Study

- PHNs saw opportunity to take the lead in communities
- Moved forward quickly with education and public messaging
- Moved forward quickly with vaccine when it became available



PHNs – H1N1 Case Study

- Vaccine taken *to* the people – schools, businesses, OB and private physician offices, hospitals, public clinics
- Many non-medical people used to assist with client flow and supply demands

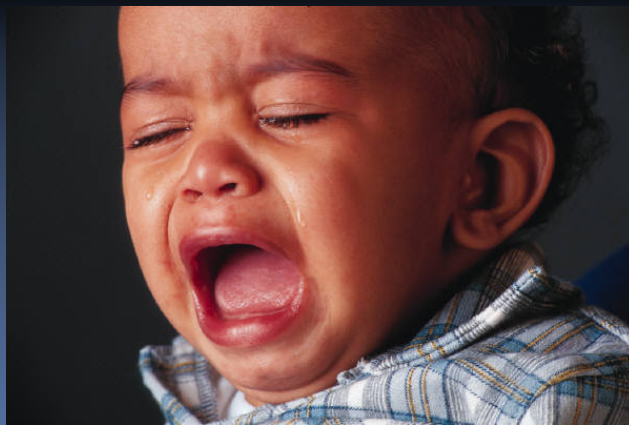


PHNs – H1N1 Case Study

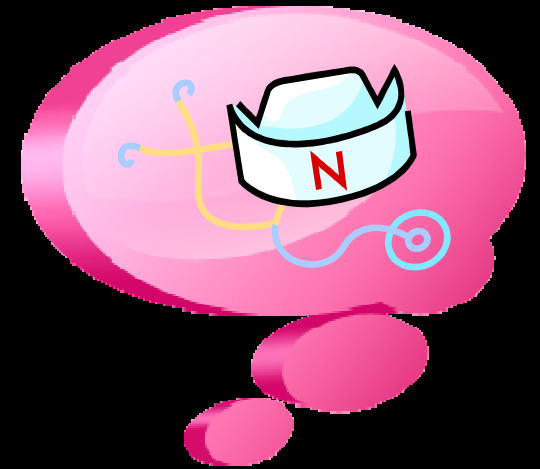
- Nurses saw what was needed and set out to “solve” the problem
- Focus was on caring for people in the community
- Prevention, protection, and education for a healthy community

Immunizations: Indiana is leading!

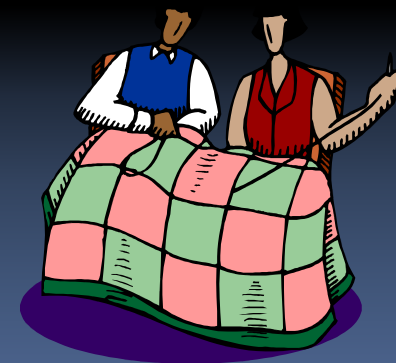
- Recent NIH survey reports that INDIANA has gone from a rank of 43 to 6 (!) for completed immunizations for 2 year olds.
- THIS IS REMARKABLE and is a credit to the work of our public health nurses.

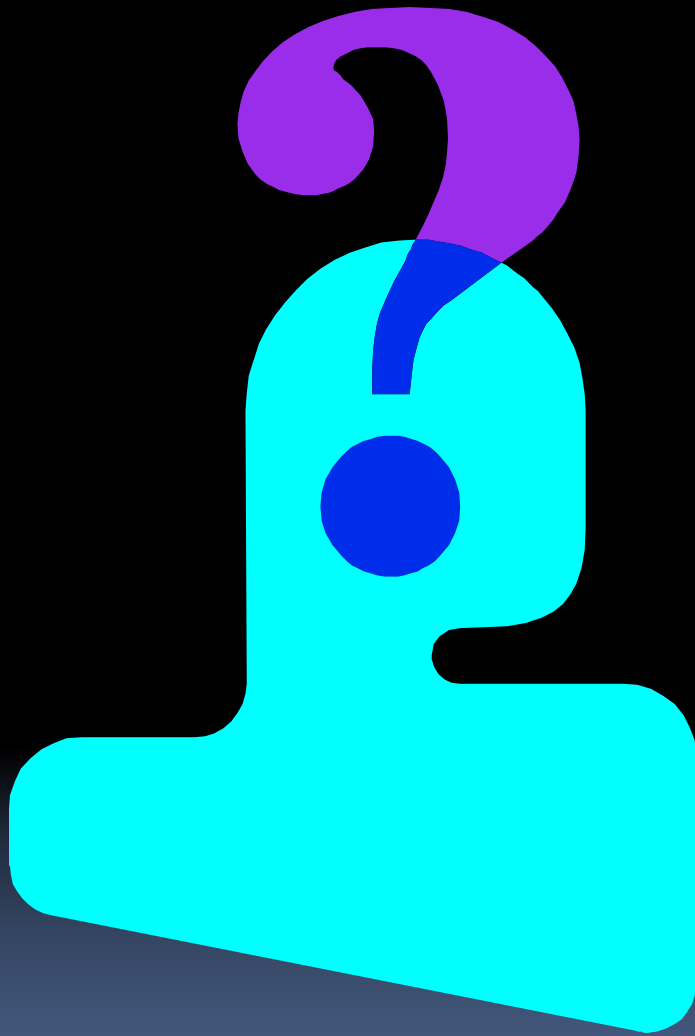


Final Thoughts...



- Public Health Nurses are leaders!
- In public health, the job is never done...
- Are you up for the task?





Thank you!

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